



SAUSALITO

Tugboat theft case ends in plea deal

Local » A3



MASTER GARDENER

The right plant for the right spot

H&G » B1



WARRIORS

Thompson takes aim at three-point shootout

Sports » C1

| MEDALS TABLE | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Nation | G | S | B | Tot |
| Norway | 6 | 8 | 5 | 19 |
| Germany | 9 | 2 | 4 | 15 |
| Netherlands | 6 | 5 | 2 | 13 |
| Canada | 4 | 5 | 4 | 13 |
| Austria | 4 | 1 | 4 | 9 |
| United States | 5 | 1 | 2 | 8 |



SUNNY

High: 66 Low: 49 » PAGE C6

Marin Independent Journal

Saturday, February 17, 2018

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MILL VALLEY

CLASH OVER COLORS



JAMES CACCIATORE — SPECIAL TO THE MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL

Kannyn January stands in front of her Branded Boutique at 118 Throckmorton Ave. in Mill Valley. Officials said her turquoise paint job isn't allowed by city codes.

Boutique's bright paint job causes a city stir

By Adrian Rodriguez
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A debate over the color of a Mill Valley boutique remains unresolved after reaching an anticlimactic public hearing this week that left the store owner blue in the face.

Kannyn January and her turquoise-painted store at 118 Throckmorton Ave. in downtown Mill Valley were put on trial at City Hall on Tuesday, after city planners said the bright paint, known as "Hawaiian Vacation," violates city code. The fate of the vibrant color palette at Branded Boutique remains in limbo, however, as the Planning Commission didn't have the answer.

The commission voted 4-0, with Commissioner Ur-

ban Carmel absent, to continue the hearing to a date uncertain, directing staff to work with January to find a solution. That could mean keeping some of the turquoise as a highlight or trim, commissioners said.

"It's just too bright," Commissioner Ric Capretta said, adding that the city code calls for muted earth tones, and that the turquoise was unlike anything else in the downtown.

Chairman Kevin Skiles said he is sympathetic.

"I think it's a very attractive color, but unfortunately that is not what our job is here to do," he said. "It's to interpret the design review guidelines and call balls and strikes on them. ... And I agree, this is not close."

January said she would

STORE » PAGE 6



COURTESY OF BRANDED BOUTIQUE

The exterior of the Branded Boutique storefront before the paint job.

"I think it's a very attractive color, but unfortunately that is not what our job is here to do. It's to interpret the design review guidelines and call balls and strikes on them. ... And I agree, this is not close."

— Chairman Kevin Skiles

FLORIDA SCHOOL MASSACRE

FBI bungled clues about shooter

Agency admits tip wasn't passed on

By Jay Weaver, Sarah Blaskey, David Ovalle and Nicholas Nehamas
 Miami Herald

PARKLAND, FLA. » The FBI received two alarming tips about Nikolas Cruz in the past six months: Someone who knew him well believed he was capable of murdering teachers and students. And an on-line commenter using the handle "nikolas cruz" professed his desire to become a "professional school shooter."

But somehow no one at the FBI connected the dots or shared information about Cruz with the agents who might have stopped him before Wednesday, when he killed 17 people at a high school in Broward County.

The day following the massacre, the FBI said it had no way to trace the chilling online comment, flagged in September by a tipster in Mississippi, to South Florida.

Then, in a shocking admission Friday, FBI Director Christopher Wray said the tip from the person close to Cruz — deliv-

FBI » PAGE 2



GERALD HERBERT — AP PHOTO

People hug at a public memorial for the 17 deceased students and faculty from Wednesday's shooting in Parkland, Fla.

+
 Read More: Victims Remembered
 PAGE A8

FAIRFAX

Senior housing snagged by costs

Affordable project receives \$1.1 million loan from county

By Richard Halstead
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Developers of a \$31.2 million Fairfax affordable senior housing project are struggling to assemble the money needed to build the 54-unit project amid escalating costs.

The Town Council in June 2017 approved the Victory Village housing project for a 2-acre parcel at 2626 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. owned by Christ Lutheran Church.

Resources for Community Development, the Berkeley-based nonprofit that is overseeing the Victory Village housing project, applied last year for more than \$14 million in federal tax credits for low-income housing but was denied. The credits are awarded on a competitive basis.

At that time, the project was projected to cost \$28.3 million, but since then the cost estimate has increased to \$31.2 million.

The Marin Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a \$1.1 million loan to RCD from the county's in-lieu housing trust fund. That will leave \$4.9 million in the trust fund.

"The allocation of funds from the housing trust will serve as local match money and hopefully make their tax credit application competitive," Leelee Thomas, planning manager for the Community Development Agency's housing program, told supervisors.

In exchange for the 55-year loan, RCD has agreed to set aside 10 percent of the project's units for people transitioning out of homelessness.

FAIRFAX » PAGE 4

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Indictment says vast meddling by Russian group

13 individuals, 3 companies accused of election scheme

By Devlin Barrett, Sari Horwitz and Rosalind S. Helderman
 The Washington Post

WASHINGTON » The Justice Department's special counsel announced a sweeping indictment Friday of a notorious Russian group of Internet trolls — charging 13 individuals and three companies with a long-running scheme to criminally interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

The Internet Research Agency, based in St. Petersburg, was named in the indictment as the hub of an ambitious effort to trick Americans online into following and promoting Russian-fed propaganda that pushed 2016 voters toward then-Republican candidate Donald Trump and away from Democratic rival Hillary Clinton.

The indictment charges that the Russian efforts began in 2014, when three of the Russian conspirators visited 10 states, gathering intelligence about U.S. politics. Officials say that as the

RUSSIA » PAGE 2

POLITICS

GOP leaders struggle to push immigration bill

As badly as things have gone for legislation in the Senate, it's not looking any easier in the conservative House. PAGE A7






HARASSMENT

Misconduct probe of senator completed

The state Senate Rules Committee received the results of an investigation into sexual harassment allegations. PAGE A6

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